

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

SBG's decision to require its stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election constitutes a partisan advertisement for one candidate. While Sinclair calls the documentary "news," it is clearly slanted heavily toward one political candidate. The timing of this decision is clearly calculated to impact the election.

Please protect the public interest by requiring SBG either to (a) wait to air the advertisement after the election, or (b) provide the Kerry campaign with equal time in an equally appealing time slot (also without commercial breaks and before election day) to present material to balance out the "Stolen Honor" advertisement/documentary.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.